

Remarks

This Submission is being filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 in connection with the enclosed Request for Continuing Examination (RCE). The enclosed RCE is responsive to the Final Office Action of February 16, 2005, for which a response is due May 16, 2005. In the Final Office Action, the examiner rejected claims 1-3 and 9-19 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,496,474 issued to Nagatani et al ("Nagatani"). In addition, 4-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nagatani in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,275,520 issued to Nakamura et al. Claims 1, 9, 13, 16 have been amended, while new claims 20 - 22 have been added. No new matter is being added. Claims 1-22 remain pending. Reexamination and reconsideration in light of the remarks made below are respectfully requested.

Applicant submits that Nagatani, taken alone or in combination with Nakamura, fails to teach or suggest the arrangement of the pending independent claims, as amended. In particular, Applicant has amended claim 1 to recite that the "combination control signal is usable to set one or more weighting coefficients." Corresponding amendments have been made to the other pending independent claims. Support for this amendment can be found, in part, on page 6, ll 23-24 which describes the combination control signals ec0 to ec3 and lc0 to lc3 of Figure 7 as being "used to set weighting coefficients for the output registers 703 to 706."

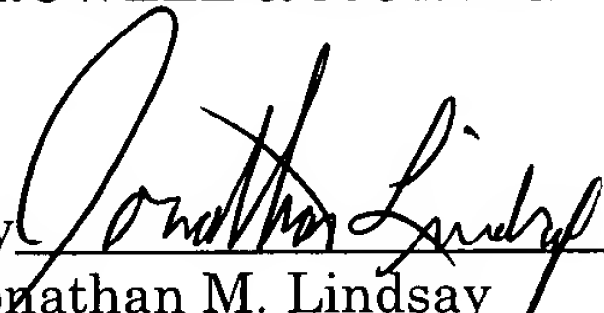
Applicant submits that Nagatani, alone or in combination with Nakamura, fails to anticipate or render obvious the claims of the present application. In particular, there is no teaching or suggestion for using a combination control signal to set weighting coefficients, as recited in the amended independent claims.

Applicant respectfully submits that the application is now in condition for allowance. Applicant further submits that the dependent claims are allowable by virtue of depending on allowable base claims. If there are any questions regarding this Response or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

Respectfully submitted,

CROWELL & MORING LLP

Dated: May 16, 2005

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Date